

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 518

By Davis L

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Ezell-Harding  
Christian School Quarterback John Paul "J.P." Shelly  
on an outstanding Senior season in 2001.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for this General Assembly to honor those exceptional young people who display diligence, determination and exceptional skill in the realm of athletics; and

WHEREAS, Ezell-Harding Christian School Quarterback John Paul "J.P." Shelly has evidenced such athletic skill and achievement; and

WHEREAS, during the 2001 season, J.P. Shelly's exceptional athletic skills resulted in him passing for 3,738 yards and an astounding 48 touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, J. P. Shelly's marvelous accuracy enabled him to complete 192 of 316 passes for an incredible 60.7 completion percentage; and

WHEREAS, his versatility as a football player was evidenced by his 156 yards rushing and four rushing touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, by means of these outstanding efforts, J.P. Shelly set Tennessee State High School Football Records for most touchdown passes in a season (48), most touchdowns by an individual (52), and total offense in one season by an individual (rushing and passing only) with 3,894 yards. J.P. Shelly's 3,738 passing yards is the second highest single season total in State History; and

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WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly's ten touchdown passes in a game versus Loretto High School not only shattered the Tennessee State Record for most touchdown passes in a game, but also set the National High School Football Record for most touchdown passes in a game; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly has also tied the State Championship Game Record for most touchdown passes in a game with four, and he set the record for the longest touchdown pass in the Championship Game with a 91 yard strike; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly demonstrated his incomparable leadership abilities on the field as he led the Ezell-Harding Christian School Eagles to an undefeated season, collecting 15 wins and the first TSSAA Class 1A Football State Championship in school history; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly compiled numerous honors during the 2001 season including: TSSAA "Mr. Football" finalist, Class 1A Division; Region 5-1 A Offensive Most Valuable Player; Associated Press First Team All-State Quarterback; Tennessee Sports Writers 1A First Team All-State Quarterback; and *The Tennessean's* Offensive Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, not only does J.P. Shelly excel in athletics, he is also a proficient and dedicated scholar. He maintains a 3.65 GPA, which ranks 9<sup>th</sup> in his class of 69; he is a National Merit Commended Scholar, and has scored a 34 on the ACT; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly displays his singular leadership qualities off the field through his service to various school and community organizations, including the Ezell-Harding Chapel Committee, the Red Cross Club, the Beta Club, and Boys State. He also serves as Co-President of the Friendship of Christian Athletes and has been named "Mr. Ezell-Harding Christian School"; and

WHEREAS, J.P. Shelly is an outstanding athlete, yet he is also a young man of exceptional character; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee takes great pride in the outstanding combination of athletic ability and sterling character embodied by J. P. Shelly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Ezell-Harding Quarterback John Paul "J.P." Shelly on an outstanding senior season in 2001 and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for John Paul Shelly with this final clause omitted from such copy.